

**Juduser**

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 14, 2022 4:20 AM  
**To:** JudTestimony  
**Subject:** Written Testimony

**Good morning, thank you for your time today. I am here to speak against the bills SB16 and HB5416, and in support of SB388, HB5415, and HB5412.**

**There are many reasons to reject the subject infringements on the rights of responsible citizens. You will no doubt hear today some philosophical arguments about the rights of a free people to be armed against potential tyranny, and the rights of the individual to be secure in his (or her) person and property. But I am not here to speak to those principles at the moment, for while they are certainly valid, if these basic principles were uniformly understood, we would not be having occasion to speak today.**

You will probably hear some data-based arguments about false anti-gun narratives spun by the mainstream media, our governor, and our senators. But of course you have doubtless heard counter-narratives from the left, and the esteemed members of this body likely already possess a cognitive bias in one direction or the other that would take time, and open minds, to overcome. A famous CT resident once spoke of "lies, Damn Lies, and statistics," and we could discuss the analysis I did myself as an aerospace engineer at MIT to sort the truth from the fiction of these disparate narratives. I welcome any follow-up questions from the committee in this regard, but three minutes is a small fraction of the time we would require to properly understand the data and cut through decades of misinformation on this topic. I would be thrilled to rationally discuss the existing data and analysis with any of you at your leisure, but since that is beyond our scope today, I must move on.

I could make a historical argument about the origins of modern gun control in the racist Reconstruction era goal to keep freed blacks unarmed and easily victimized by southern Democrats, and the Jim Crow era legislation designed to do the same, and perpetuate the division from working class whites. One might note that another key goal of

Southern Democrats in that era was to suppress the formation of a “gun culture” among blacks, and that the continuation of urban gun control in the bluest cities still has the same effect today.

Ultimately, as the first Republican President said, our nation was conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. If we cannot stand by this fundamental precept of our Constitution in this “constitution state,” then the time has come to admit your abdication of any pretense to defense of that document, and the uniquely American idea that the people represent the foundational source of power and authority in our society, rather than the government. If you cannot abide an armed citizenry, you must renounce your oaths to the constitution and rule of law, and unmask yourselves as the tyrants who would destroy Liberty... On \*your\* watch, the dream of government of, by, and for, the people... Dies.

\*end of three minute oral testimony\*

Written addendum: As a Ukrainian American, I find it despicable that our public discourse celebrates the free people of Ukraine fighting for their homes and national identity, while denying the same fundamental rights of Americans here. When you should be rolling back misguided, emotionally driven over-reach legislation that has no objectively demonstrable impact on public safety, you are instead targeting responsible citizens as a easy “performative theatre” target for your authoritarian propaganda.

Shame, unpardonable shame, shall be heaped upon those who might choose to support this misguided assault on responsible citizens of the great state of Connecticut.

-John P. Olynyk

Sent from my iPad